

REMARKS

The present application includes claims 1-8 and 11-29. Claims 1-8 and 11-29 were rejected. By this Amendment, claims 1-17, 20-26 and 29 have been canceled and claims 18, 19, 27 and 28 have been amended, and claims 30 and 31 have been added.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 11, 12, 18-20, 27 and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ogden, U.S. Patent No. 4,699,120.

Claims 1-12 and 18-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chavana, U.S. Patent No. 6,363,925, in view of Ogden, U.S. Patent No. 4,699,120.

Claims 13-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ogden, U.S. Patent No. 4,699,120, or Chavana, U.S. Patent No. 6,363,925, in view of Ogden, U.S. Patent No. 4,699,120.

The Applicant now turns to the rejection of claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 11, 12, 18-20, 27 and 28 as being anticipated by Ogden. Ogden teaches a charcoal grid arrangement for charcoal grills. As shown in Figure 1, and described in Col. 6 Lines 1-23, Ogden teaches a charcoal grill with a tinder receiver 70. As taught by Ogden, the tinder receiver may include one or more handles and may be removed upwardly. In Ogden, as shown in Figure 2 and described at Col. 6, Lines 49-51, the grill's base and grilling area are circular. Specifically, Ogden teaches a "generally circular marginal outline" for a grid that fits into a grill base.

Consequently, Ogden only teaches mounting an ash catcher in a circular grill. Thus, Ogden does not teach the use of a vertically introduced ash-catcher in a rectangular grill or a non-round grill.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 11, 12, 18-20, 27 and 28 have been canceled. Consequently, only independent claims 18 and 27 remain (as well as their dependent claims 19 and 28). Both independent claims 18 and 27 have been amended to explicitly recite the use of a vertically introduced ash catcher in a rectangular or non-round grill, which is respectfully submitted to not be taught by Ogden. Consequently, claims 18 and 27 (and their respective dependent claims 19 and 28) are respectfully submitted to be allowable.

The Applicant now turns to the rejection of claims 1-12 and 18-29 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chavana in view of Ogden. Chavana teaches a charcoal grill having an ash catcher that slides onto a fixture on the base of the grill, as described at Col. 2, Lines 8-10 and Col. 5, Lines 7-17.

Chavana does not teach an ash catcher that is vertically introduced into an aperture in the base of a non-round charcoal grill. Further, as discussed above, Ogden also does not teach this limitation.

Consequently, neither Ogden nor Chavana teach a rectangular or non-round charcoal grill having an aperture in the base for vertically receiving an ash catcher. This limitation is recited in claims 18 and 27, as amended. Consequently, claims 18 and 27

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(and their respective dependent claims 19 and 28) are respectfully submitted to be allowable. Claims 1-12 and 20-26 have been canceled.

The Applicant now turns to the rejection of claims 13-17 were under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ogden or Chavana in view of Ogden. Claims 13-17 have been canceled. Consequently, this rejection is respectfully submitted to be moot.

In light of the aforementioned amendments and discussion, the Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance.

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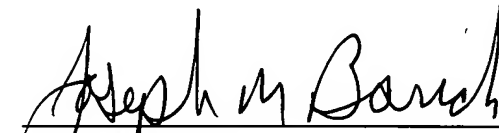
CONCLUSION

If the Examiner has any questions or the Applicant can be of any assistance, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to contact the Applicant at the number below.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary fees or credit any overpayment to the Deposit Account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Account No. 13-0017.

Respectfully submitted,

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Joseph M. Barich
Registration No. 42,291

MCANDREWS, HELD & MALLOY, LTD.
500 West Madison Street, 34th Floor
Chicago, IL 60661

Telephone: (312) 775-8000
Facsimile: (312) 775-8100